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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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09/13/2000

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06/15/2006

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EXAMINER

PHAM, THIERRY L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 06/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

- This action is responsive to the following communication: an Amendment filed on 3/17/06.
- Claims 1-46 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-7, 11-18, 22-23, 24-28, 32-36, 39-43, and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) is being anticipated by Tan et al (Tan) (U.S. 5,978,560).

With respect to claims 1, 3, 11, 12, 14, 22, 23, 32, 33, 39, 40, and 46, Tan discloses a server (400) for storing reproduction data; at least one attachment unit (420) coupled to the server, and comprising means for interfacing with a portable memory device (600) having a reference to the data (*column 4, lines 25-36*); first and second reproduction devices (500) coupled to the attachment unit (*figure 1*), the first reproduction device capable of performing a first reproduction of the data and the second reproduction device capable of performing a second reproduction of the data, the second reproduction being different from the first reproduction (*column 3, lines 2-8*), and rule processing means for processing a rule set (*instructions or attributes*) which includes selection criteria for selecting the reproduction data (*which reads on*

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associating a set of print jobs with a set of physical and logical printers, column 3, lines 46-64) to determine whether to reproduce the reproduction data based on whether the reproduction data satisfies selection criteria (*column 3, lines 2-57, column 4, lines 12-22, column 5, line 62 to column 6, line 4, and column 6, lines 38-60*), wherein the attachment unit requests the reproduction data from the server for use by the reproduction device if the reproduction data satisfies the selection criteria (*column 3, lines 29-37*).

With respect to claims 2, 4, 13, 15, 24, and 25, Tan discloses a user interface (column 5, lines 41-50).

With respect to claims 5, 6, 7, 16, 17, 18, 26, 27, 28, 34, 35, 36, 41, 42, and 43, Tan discloses an auto-print and auto view feature (column 3, lines 46-57 and column 7, lines 20-32).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8-10, 19-21, 29-31, 37, 38, 44, and 45 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 3/17/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

- Regarding to independent claims 1, 12, 23, 33, and 40, the applicants argued the cited prior art of record (US 5978560 to Tan et al) fails to teach and/or suggest the claimed feature that a determination of whether to reproduce reproduction data is based on whether the reproduction data satisfies selection criteria for selecting the reproduction data, wherein the selection criteria is included within a rule set.

In response, the examiner disagrees with the applicants' arguments/assertions. Tan clearly teaches a determination of whether to reproduce reproduction data is based on whether the reproduction data satisfies selection criteria for selecting the reproduction data, wherein the selection criteria is included within a rule set (associating a set of print job attributes (col. 3, lines

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50-55) to a set of logical printers). An example of print job attributes (i.e. print job identifier, print job extension such as .doc, .txt, and etc.) as shown in col. 4, lines 50 to col. 5, lines 4. The applicants also stated the Examiner was previously agreed to withdraw a rejection based upon above arguments during a telephone interview on March 7, 2006. There is no record stating the Examiner was agreed to withdraw a prior art rejection.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

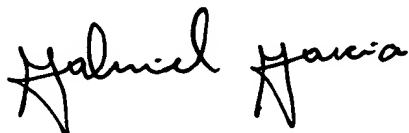
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thierry L. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-7439. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30 AM - 6:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571)272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thierry L. Pham



GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER